

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The present Amendment is submitted to place the above-identified application in condition for allowance based on the indication of allowable subject matter in the outstanding Office Action.

More particularly, in the outstanding Office Action claims 6, 7, 16, 17, 21, and 25 were objected to as dependent on rejected base claims, but were otherwise noted as allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. The other claims were rejected over certain prior arts.

By the present response claim 1 is amended to incorporate the limitations of previously pending dependent claims 4 and 6. Thus, independent claim 1 now corresponds to previously pending dependent claim 6 rewritten in independent form. Thereby, independent claim 1, and the claims dependent therefrom, now recite subject matter indicated as allowable in the outstanding Office Action, and thereby are believed to be allowable.

Similarly, independent claim 11 is amended by the present response to incorporate limitations from previously pending dependent claims 14 and 16, and thereby amended independent claim 11 corresponds to previously pending dependent claim 16 rewritten in independent form. That subject matter was noted as allowable in the outstanding Office Action. Thereby, amended independent claim 11, and the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to also recite subject matter indicated as allowable in the outstanding Office Action, and are thereby believed to be allowable.

Similarly, independent claim 20 is amended by the present response to incorporate limitations from previously pending dependent claim 21. Thus, independent claim 20 now corresponds to previously pending dependent claim 21 rewritten in independent form, which subject matter was also indicated as allowable in the Office Action. Thus, amended

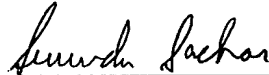
independent claim 20, and the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to recite subject matter indicated as allowable in the outstanding Office Action, and thus are believed to be allowable.

No other claims are pending in the above-identified application except for the above-noted amended independent claims 1, 11, and 20, and claims dependent therefrom. Thus, only allowable claims are believed to be currently pending in this application.

In view of the present amendment, the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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